

REMARKS

The Office Action has alleged that claims 1-27 comprise two distinct inventions: one (Group I) defined by claims 1-12 and one (Group II) defined by claims 13-27. Applicants hereby elect claim group I (claims 1-12 for prosecution), with traverse.

It appears that the basis for the restriction is that one claim group could be unpatentable, without necessarily implying the unpatentability of the other group. This, however, is the case whenever there is more than one independent claim, and Applicants submit that it is not a proper basis for restriction. Further, Applicants submit that the class/subclass of the search for claim 1-12 will be the same as for claims 13-27. Therefore, Applicants traverse the restriction requirement, and request that the Examiner advance the prosecution on all claims.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


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